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NEW USSR DEVELOPMENTS IN TISSUE THERAPY

Prof N. I. Leonov

Tissue therapy originated in the USSR with the work of M. P. Tushnov (1-1935), Acting Member of the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni V. I. Lenin, who developed the theory and practical medical application of histolysates. distolysates are products obtained either by treating various tissues with pepsin or trypsin or else by autolysis without addition of any enzyme.

Beginning with 1931, tissue therapy was greatly stimulated by the work of V. P. Filatov, but the direction of its development changed somewhat under the influence of this scientist's view that the action of implanted tissues is on the whole unspecific. Filatov discovered that, besides the tissue of animals and men, plant tissue also develops powerful biogenic stimulants. On keeping cut aloe leaves in darkness for 15 days at a temperature of no higher than 15°C, he obtained a product the extract from which cured various diseases as effectively as implantation of preserved animal or human tissue. Dr G. E. Rumyantsev (Rostov) continued Filatov's work, but on the basis of practical experience came to the conclusion that animal tissues have a specific effect and that it makes a great deal of difference what kind of tissue is used. Investigations carried out by B. P. Tokin's and some of his followers established the connection between phytoncides and the biogenic stimulants which are effective in tissue therapy.

Professor I. A. Gusynin carried on investigations for a number of years at the All-Union Institute of Experimental Veterinary Science on the therapeutic action of specific volatile extracts of the field flower Ranunculus acer. He established that the active principle of Ranunculus acer, protoanemonin, not only checks the growth of bacteria, but exerts a powerful stimulating effect on the nervous system and various tissues of the organism. Under the circumstances, the substance in question can be used for treatment of general

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pathological processes in animals such as adenitis equorum, ulcerous lymphangitis [L. ulcerosa pseudofarctinosa], and tuberculosis. Filatov's method of using plant material was perfected in the course of work done by L. I. Aleksandrov, Associate of the Novosibirsk Institute of Animal Husbandry. By using a new, original method of treating plants, Aleksandrov obtained highly active and specific therapeutic preparations by means of which severe chronic infections like brucellosis or tuberculosis could be cured rapidly and thoroughly.

Of particular interest are the new therapeutic tissue preparations developed in recent years by A. V. Dorogov, Scientific Associate of the All-Union Institute of Veterinary Medicine. As distinguished from Filatov, Dorogov regards as the active principle of his preparations products of tissue dissociation rather than substances developed by cells in the process of their life activity. In this he approaches Tushnov's point of view.

On the basis of extensive experimental data, it was established that Dorogov's preparations (ASD - Dorogov's antiseptic stimulants) are much more effective and have a wider range of activity than any tissue preparations used previously. ASD preparations have received wide recognition in veterinary medicine and have been found effective in diseases which hitherto were considered incurable: paratuberculous enteritis of cattle and sheep, plague of birds, and severe forms of equine periodic ophthalmia. ASD remedies also have been introduced into human medicine for the treatment of various skin diseases, including lupus. While favorable results were obtained in treating neoplasms (cancer of lips, tongue, breast, and esophagus) with ASD, these results are not yet quite conclusive. ASD can be administered either intravenously or per os.

ASD stimulates the nervous system and raises the tonus of the organism, thus stimulating defense against infection. Elimination of the increased acidity of the organism, which arises in the majority of pathological processes, is of importance in bringing about this defensive action. ASD lowers this acidity rapidly and removes toxic conditions.

Professor I. I. Kazanskiy found that the virus of the foot-and-mouth disease, when combined with a certain quantity of ASD, produces only a weak infection in experimental animals upon injection. On the other hand, a lasting immunity is brought about by the injection. ASD in certain concentrations exerts a bacteriostatic effect on tuberculosis and brucellosis bacteria, pasteurilla, and staphylococci. This indicates that ASD preparations have pronounced antibiotic and antiseptic properties.

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